

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented system for managing a flow of network status messages to a network operations console, comprising:

- a processor; and
- a computer readable medium encoded with processor readable instructions that when executed by the processor implement,
 - a network status gathering mechanism configured to ascertain a network status,
 - a network status reporting mechanism configured to report said network status to said network operations console, and
 - a network status reporting level determination mechanism configured to determine a level of detail to report said network status to said network operations console based on ~~at least one of a~~ user request and a predetermined allocation of bandwidth for use in reporting network status;

~~wherein regardless of the user request, the level of detail is limited to a maximal level permitted by available bandwidth.~~

2. (Original) The system of Claim 1, wherein:

said network status reporting level determination mechanism is configured to determine said level of detail on a switch by switch basis.

3. (Currently Amended) A method of managing a flow of network status messages to a network operations console, comprising the steps of:

- gathering network status;
- determining a reporting level at which to report network status based

on ~~at least one of~~ a user request and a predetermined allocation of bandwidth for use in providing network status; and

providing network status to said network operations console at said reporting level from said determining step;

~~wherein regardless of the user request, the reporting level is limited to a maximal level permitted by available bandwidth.~~

4. (Currently Amended) A system for managing a flow of network status messages to a network operations console, comprising:

means for gathering network status;

means for determining a reporting level at which to report network status based on ~~at least one of~~ a request and a predetermined allocation of bandwidth for use in providing network status; and

means for providing network status to said network operations console at said reporting level from said determining step;

~~wherein regardless of the user request, the reporting level is limited to a maximal level permitted by available bandwidth.~~

5. (Currently Amended) A computer program product, comprising:
a computer storage medium and a computer program code mechanism embedded in the computer storage medium for causing a processor to facilitate the management of a flow of network status messages to a network operations console, the computer program code mechanism comprising:

a first computer code device configured to gather a network status;

a second computer code device configured to determine a reporting level at which to report network status based on ~~at least one of~~ a user request and a predetermined allocation of bandwidth for use in providing network status; and

a third computer code device configured to provide network status to said network operations console at said reporting level determined by said

second computer code device;

C.1 ~~wherein regardless of the user request, the reporting level is limited
to a maximal level permitted by available bandwidth.~~
